ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A vehicle mounted crash attenuator includes first and second bays mounted together at a rotational joint. One or more hydraulic cylinders are mounted between the bays to move the second bay between a deployed position, in which the first and second bays are aligned horizontally, and a retracted position, in which the second bay is rotated about the rotational joint by a rotation angle greater than 90° from the deployed position. In this way, the second bay is raised above the first bay, and the overall length of the crash attenuator is shortened, all without excessively increasing the overall height of the crash attenuator.